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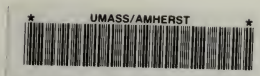

Celebrate Discovery!
Synopsis

The Christopher Columbus Quincentennial Commission, charged by the state legislature with developing an overall plan for celebrating the historic voyages of Christopher Columbus, looked beyond the obvious of parades and parties and sought instead to highlight the spirit of Columbus through a celebration of that spirit, the spirit of Discovery . . . discovery about our world, ourselves, our communities; discovery in science, art and medicine; and discovery about the diverse and rich cultures which comprise the communities of our state.

What evolved from that effort is Celebrate Discovery! which is both a blueprint for programs and activities commemorating the voyages of Columbus and a nonprofit corporation formed explicitly to bring the ideas of Celebrate Discovery! to reality. For each year beginning in October, 1989 through 1992, special emphasis is placed on a particular aspect of discovery, with statewide events, activities and participation planned that center on that theme. In all cases, the goals are the same . . . to celebrate discovery while building lasting monuments that carry into the future and remain for those who follow us.

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1989

October, 1989 is the official launching of Celebrate Discovery! with a Grand Inaugural scheduled at 6 p.m., Wednesday, October 11 at the John F. Kennedy Library to gain public awareness of and support for the efforts and goals of the endeavor. This is a crucial step, since the full success and impact of future events depend on participation from cities and towns, organizations and groups from throughout the state. Building coalitions among and establishing liaisons with members of those communities and groups is an essential first step.

The Columbus Eve Inaugural event will be jointly sponsored by the Quincentennial Commission and Celebrate Discovery, Inc., one of the two recently incorporated nonprofit groups set up to conduct and finance activities tied to the 500th anniversary. The officers of the second nonprofit group-Sail Boston '92-will be introduced at the event. Celebrate Discovery, Inc., which takes its name from the Commission's Blueprint, will conduct a three-year thematic series of activities throughout the state, and Sail Boston '92 will concentrate solely on the events related to the Parade of Sail and activities for the officers and crews of the international tall ships that will sail into Boston Harbor and stay during the period of July 11 through the 16th, 1992.

The formal Inaugural program will consist of two keynote speakers - an historian and a futurist - who will apply their distinct perspectives to the Celebrate Discovery themes of science, medicine, family and community.

On October 11, the speaker's podium will be shared by biohistorian Alfred W. Crosby, a native of Boston, and professor of American Studies and Geography at the University of Texas at Austin, and social commentator and Nobel Peace Prize laureate Conn Nugent, who is currently Coordinator of Five Colleges, Inc., in Amherst.

1990

In 1990, the theme is "Discovery and Health Care Solutions" with a focus on the disease AIDS . . . Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome . . . and building local capabilities for dealing with its impact on community-based services and day-to-day affairs. Columbus' discoveries prompted positive change in technologies, medicine, law and science. His voyages also, however, introduced new diseases to the new world, with many problematic ethical, sociological and economic ramifications. Today it is AIDS which is challenging us. And, while Massachusetts has been a leader in many ways in responding to this challenge, little has been done to assist community leaders in a targeted, comprehensive way to deal with the issues they inevitably will face.

Celebrate Discovery! 1990 will address that void by working with community leaders . . . elected and appointed . . . from throughout the state during an intensive weekend-long retreat/conference. This conference will focus on helping community leaders understand the disease and its potential impact and

assisting those leaders with the advance planning and preparation that can mitigate disruption and distress from the disease in their communities. It is hoped that networks of communities can be formed for mutual assistance which will extend beyond the weekend conference. A model training program for community leaders across the country could also result.

1991

The Family is the Discovery focus of 1991. That year's activities will include an examination of the strengths and stresses of the 1990's version of "family ties" as well as a careful scrutiny of new ways in which communities of families can constructively confront their common problems such as cultural integration and access to family support services. The role of the media, the importance of communication skills to the family, and the mutual benefits of successfully integrating a community's newer families are among the themes that will be stressed through video programs, public service spots and public television broadcasts. The month of October, 1991 will be set aside as the Discovery Family awareness period, with regionally focused activities scheduled.

1992

1992 will Celebrate Discovery and a Sense of Place. The highlight of that year is the Parade of Tall Ships into Boston Harbor during July. Other activities will also be encouraged,

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however, which get people to take a "new" look at the world around them. Competitions for 15th century garden designs and restoration of neglected landmarks, public places, or other community resources are included in that year's plans. Because of the magnitude of the Tall Ships portion of the 1992 events, planning and operation of that segment is being handled separately with Celebrate Discovery, Inc. responsible for the other planned activities.

Celebrate Discovery, Inc. is incorporated as a private, nonprofit charitable organization. In addition to its incorporators and directors, Celebrate Discovery, Inc. draws upon extensive advisory boards established to assist with and give oversight to each year's events.